

Serving Parents  
and Providers in  
Cherokee,  
DeKalb, Jack-  
son and Mar-  
shall counties

# Childcare Resource Network Newsletter for June 2009



## A Super Saturday

As all of you know from last month's newsletter, we held our second Super Saturday on May 16th at Northeast Alabama Community College. Our presenter was Kathleen Proctor from the Applebaum Institute in Texas. We got rave reviews about Kathleen and her program, The Wonderful World of Children, from all the providers who attended.

We had 73 providers in attendance and we also had several vendors. There were several other vendors who sent information to be distributed and some really nice door prizes.

Gary Richards and Osborne Brothers provided our breakfast and our lunch. Gary also provided some samples for door prizes, as well as helping us prepare the luncheon foods.

Needless to say, we all had a really good day. If you haven't been able to attend one of our Super Saturdays yet, consider doing so. Not only do you get training hours and great ideas for your classroom, you get to have a lot of fun with your peers and to network with them. Judy and I hope to see you at our next **Super Saturday!**

## Father's Day

Sonora Louise Smart Dodd, of Spokane, Washington, started the tradition of Father's Day in honor of her Dad. In 1916, US President Woodrow Wilson, approved the idea of observing an annual Father's Day. In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge made Father's Day a national event, but it wasn't until 1966 that President Lyndon Johnson signed a presidential proclamation declaring the 3rd Sunday of June as Father's Day.

Today, husbands, grandfathers, uncles, sons and sons-in-law are honored as well as fathers. Neckties are the old standby for gifts for Father's Day, and the source for many jokes and cards as well. Other items that are high on the list are tools and sporting goods

Some interesting facts about stay-at-home dads are interesting, particularly to those of us who care for our nation's children. It is estimated that approximately 147,000 fathers stay at home and care for their children to enable their wives to work. These fathers cared for 268,000 children under the age of 15.

Dads now seem to stay at home more with younger children. Preschoolers claim 20 percent of fathers with employed wives who were the primary caregiver for their preschooler. In contrast, only 6 percent of fathers provided the most hours of care for their grade-school-aged child.

Many families split the responsibility of child care. Many Dads (32%) with full-

time jobs regularly worked evening or night shifts and were the primary source of care for their preschoolers during their children's mother's working hours.

### Recognition and Thanks

Just a short note to those teachers and directors who have been using our resource library, our laminating machines and our Ellison die cuts. Not only are you creating and developing plans, materials and activities for your class and your children, you are enabling CRN to keep our Quality Enhancement numbers up and show the need for this equipment and library.

So to all of you who put forth that extra effort for your children, please know that you are helping us as well and we really do appreciate it.

Our color this month  
is Pink!

### Special Days in June

#### Dairy Month

#### Great Outdoors Month

#### Zoo & Aquarium Month

#### National Safety Month

#### 1st Week—National Fishing Week

#### 4th Week—National Camping Week

#### 6/5 National Gingerbread Day

#### 6/14 Flag Day

#### 6/17 Eat Your Vegetables Day

#### 6/18 National Picnic Day

#### 6/21 Father's Day 1st Day of Summer

#### 6/23 National **Pink** Day

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Volume 2, Issue 6

Editor: Myra Holt

## June 2009 Training Schedule and Presenters

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This month, Childcare Resource Network will once again offer training sessions for the **Alabama Early Learning Guidelines**. You either have, or will be able to receive a copy of the new Alabama Early Learning Guidelines which covers a child's development from birth to five years of age, and can be used as a valuable tool in planning and working with young children. These Guidelines describe what children need to know, understand, and be able to do at certain ages and developmental stages. Come and join the growing numbers of childcare providers who have earned their State Credential for completing this course! Also, if you took the AELG course earlier this year, but may have missed one or more classes, it is not too late to earn your Credential. Just call Judy Davidson at CRN for

more information about this. Please see the insert for location, times, and credit hours.

We are excited to offer a Mother Goose "Make and Take" on Saturday, June 27! Our presenter is Brenda Blansit, a home provider who has delighted children for years with her creative approach to teaching. Brenda will lead us through the world of Nursery Rhymes with fun projects that you can easily do with the little ones in your care, from toddlers all the way up to school-agers! Join us for this rare opportunity to create games and crafts as we venture into the world of Mother Goose! **\*\*Brenda asks that each participant bring one or two paper towel rolls; all other materials will be provided.**

We will meet in the Workforce Development Building, Northeast Alabama Community College, Main Lobby. The training will begin at 8:00 and end at noon. DHR Categories: 2.0 hours in Language Development, 1.0 hours in Child Development, and 1.0 hours in Quality Child Care. Time: 8:00am – Noon.



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### CRN Training Guidelines

You must register at least one week prior to the training you wish to attend, but please call to check numbers before you give up!

#### Four Ways to Register:

- **Call us at (256)845-8238, leave your name and phone number, and we will return your call.**
- **FAX your registration to us at (256)845-6731. Then call to verify receipt.**
- **Email your registration to Judy Davidson.**
- **Mail your registration to Judy Davidson at CRN.**
- **Contact info on the last page of this newsletter**

Registrations are on a first come, first served basis. Please let us know if you have to cancel your reservation so that we may add someone from the waiting list.

To receive credit, you must be on time, and stay for the entire class.

Please do not bring children to the workshops, as child care is not available.

CRN training is open to all, regardless of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, political beliefs or religion. If your attendance is hindered by participation fees, transportation, language, location, or any other reason, you may contact the CRN office at (256)845-8238. As resources are available,

attempts will be made to overcome obstacles that hinder attendance.

If you have requests for a specific training, please notify us. We will investigate the possibility and contact you.



**If you have requests for a specific training, please notify us.**

## Volume 2, Issue 6

### Some Tips for Directors

#### Strategies for finding and keeping the best hires.

1- “You have to hire for fit, fit for the job and fit for the culture and the social network.” You need to define and be able to communicate what makes working at your center unique. Then if you find a match for the environment at your organization, you will be able to develop a happy and engaged workforce.

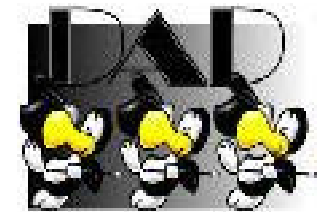
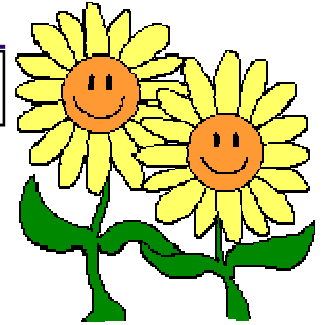
2- Design a Comprehensive On-boarding (orientation and

initial training) Program. The time and money spent finding a new employee can be a waste if you lack a program to orient new hires from day one. From the start, equip your new employees with the tools needed for success, including access to your organization’s mission and vision. Knowing where you fit in the big picture helps define priorities and responsibilities, even in the early days of employment. Some things to consider are mentoring programs and encouraging peer relationships. Most importantly you must give and receive

feedback at frequent scheduled intervals, with sit-down meetings. In other words, keep up consistent communication.

Finally, don’t stereotype different age groups. Most are more similar than different, but be prepared to emphasize the “making a difference” factor with the younger workers of Gen Y. In other words, communicate your social mission to them. Many are more interested in that than in a huge salary.

Nicole Cathcart, *Strategies for Finding and Retaining the Best Hire*, innogov, May 2009



### Science Corner

#### Lift It! Gravity

It takes force to overcome gravity and lift things. Does it take more force to lift heavy things?

#### You will need:

- A small nail
- A small, empty yogurt tub
- Three 15 cm (6 inch) long pieces of string
- A rubber band
- Marbles or small rocks
- A ruler

#### What to do:

Have an adult use the nail to make three evenly spaced holes around the rim of the plastic tub.

Thread one piece of string through each hole and tie a knot to hold the end in place.

Tie the free ends of the string together. Slip the rubber

band through the knotted end as shown.

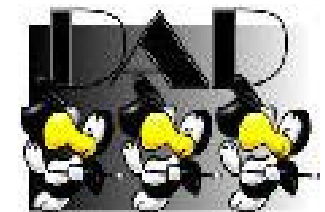
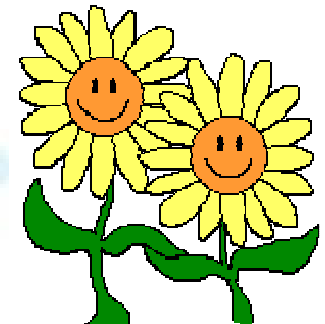
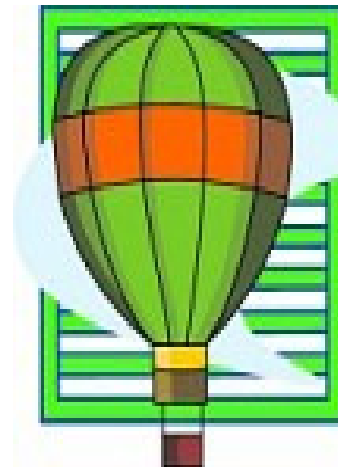
Put the tub on the floor and add one marble. Hold the elastic band by the end and pull up until the plastic tub lifts off the floor. Measure the length of the elastic.

Add 5 marbles to the tub and repeat step 4. Does the length of the elastic change when there are more objects in the tub?

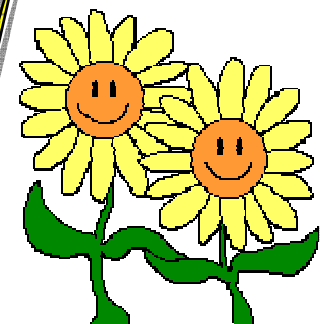
#### What’s Happening?

The force of gravity pulls down on the tub. You need to pull up against gravity to lift the tub. The marbles make the tub heavier, and it takes more force (a bigger pull) to lift it. The more force you use to lift the tub, the longer the elastic band stretches.

From: *Science You AND the Kids Can Do!*, Maryandra Wiser, February, 2009.



# Gravity



**CHILDCARE RE-  
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**Childcare Resource Network** has been in the child care business since 1973. In 1993, Childcare Resource Network was incorporated as a child care management agency. From that time, Childcare Resource Network has offered training and resources to caregivers and parents in Cherokee, DeKalb, Jackson, and Marshall counties. Now, we continue our service to this region as a Quality Enhancement Agency.

The quality of care that children receive during their pre-school years has been proven to have a great impact on their future success. Confident, well-trained caregivers are essential to quality child care. When caregivers and parents take advantage of the training opportunities and learning resources available to them at CRN, all children benefit.

**Mary Sibert Davis,  
Executive Director**

**Editorial:**

It's SUMMER! I don't know about you, but I still love knowing that summer is here. When I was younger, I truly loved the summer. I was out of school, it was warm, or hot, and I could ride my bike, swim, and play outside until dark, and even stay up later some days. I am old enough that, during my childhood, my mother was at home with us. She began working when I was twelve years old. I was old enough to supervise the two younger children in the summer. Then when I was thirteen, my grandmother came to live with us. This meant that we were always at home in the summer, playing with our neighbors and running in and out of each other's houses.

My children had a different summer experience. They were out of school, but they went to day care because I was working. This is the experience that most children have today. The children still have to get up early and go to day care, but as their caregivers, you can give them a great summer. Plan now for fun outdoor activities. Summer is shorter than you think. If you can go swimming, go for it. Many of you cannot go swimming, but you can ask the parents to bring swimsuits and towels in a plastic bag once a week and set up a slip and slide or some sprinklers in which to play. My grandson had a slip and slide for his third birthday and all twenty of the kids at his party loved it. You could have a small garden, either vegetable or flower, where the children help you or do most of the work. This would be a great experience for children, and it would help them learn to take care of something.

During the summer, be sure to remind parents to bring the children in old play clothes and sneakers that they can get dirty. This enables them to play in the sandbox, the dirt, with chalk on the walkway or driveway, eat drippy, frozen popsicles, blow bubbles or paint with paints outside. They can ride the tricycles and outside toys and get hot and sweaty. Most of you probably do this already. I just want to remind you to enjoy it and enjoy the fact that you have the chance and ability to make summer wonderful for a child. Wouldn't you love knowing that you gave a child some of his best memories of summer?

Planning is the best and most important thing you can do to assure that the children in your care have a great summer, and to assure that your life is easier. As always, having activities planned and your routine down makes managing your classes easier. Plan now, execute during the summer, and, finally, make some notes, so that at the end of the summer you can evaluate how things went, what worked, what didn't, and begin thinking about your next summer. Have a great summer and enjoy the fact that you can play with your kids throughout these wonderful warm days we have here in the south! I'll think of you while I sit at my computer here in the office.

Myra






# June, 2009

## Training Registration Form

Please call, mail, fax, or email this form to CRN.

### Childcare Resource Network

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Your Name</b> _____ _____	<b>1</b> <b>Name of Ctr./Home</b> _____ _____	<b>2</b> <b>Phone</b> _____ _____	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> AELG Session 1 Orientation 6:30—8:30pm Guntersville	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> AELG Sessions 2 & 3 8:00am—noon Guntersville
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> AELG Session 4 6:30—8:30pm Guntersville	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> AELG Session 5 6:30—8:30pm Guntersville	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> "Fly A Kite Day" 	<b>16</b> AELG Session 6 6:30—8:30pm Guntersville	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> AELG Session 7 6:30—8:30pm Guntersville	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> AELG Sessions 8 & 9 8:00am—noon Guntersville
<b>21</b>  <b>Father's Day</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Birthday of Eric Carle, Children's Book Author 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Mother Goose Make &amp; Take</b> 8:00am—Noon
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				

Please include your contact information above.

Cost	✓	Title / Location	Date
Free		AELG Session 1, Guntersville	June 4
Free		AELG Sessions 2 & 3, G'ville.	June 6
Free		AELG Session 4, Guntersville	June 9
Free		AELG Session 5, Guntersville	June 11

Cost	✓	Title / Location	Date
Free		AELG Session 6, Guntersville	June 16
Free		AELG Session 7, Guntersville	June 18
Free		AELG Sessions 8 & 9, G'ville.	June 20
Free		Make & Take Nursery Rhymes, NACC, Section	June 27



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# ***Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Training Series***

## **Where are the training sessions held?**

Sessions will be held at:  
Guntersville Child Development Center  
1648 O'Brig Avenue  
Guntersville, AL 35976

## **What training credit will be given?**

Participants will receive a 2-hour training certificate for each of the sessions attended. The Alabama Early Guidelines Credential will be awarded by Alabama Department of Human Resources to those individuals who successfully complete the entire course.

## **Who should participate?**

Childcare Center Directors  
Childcare Center Teachers  
Family Childcare & Group Home Providers  
Relative Care Providers  
Parents

## **What are the benefits of taking this course?**

Becoming familiar with the Early Learning guidelines will allow you to utilize it as a valuable tool in planning and working with young children.

## **How can I register to participate?**

The training sessions are listed as “**AELG**” along with the other training sessions in the Training Calendar. Complete the registration form, marking the sessions you are interested in taking. You may also call, fax, or email your registration.

## **YOU MUST ATTEND THE ORIENTATION IN ORDER TO TAKE ANY OTHER SESSIONS!!**

You do not have to take the training sessions in order. You will receive credit for two hours of training for each session you complete. The Alabama Early Learning Guidelines Credential will be awarded after you have successfully completed **ALL SESSIONS**.

## **Schedule of Sessions**

**YOU MUST ATTEND THE ORIENTATION FIRST IN ORDER TO TAKE ANY OTHER SESSIONS!!**

June 4, 2009

### **Session 1: Orientation**

6:30pm – 8:30pm

(Credit Hours: Child Development; Quality Childcare)

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June 6, 2009

### **Session 2: Observations**

### **Session 3: The Role of the Parent**

8:00am – 12:00 noon

(Credit Hours: Child Development /  
Childcare Professional & the Family)

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June 9, 2009

### **Session 4: Self-Concept & Emotional Development**

6:30pm – 8:30pm

(Credit Hours: Child Development /  
Positive Discipline & Guidance)

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June 11, 2009

### **Session 5: Social Development**

6:30pm – 8:30pm

(Credit Hours: Child Development /  
Positive Discipline & Guidance)

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June 16, 2009

### **Session 6: Language Development**

6:30pm – 8:30pm

(Credit Hours: Language Development)

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June 18, 2009

### **Session 7: Physical Development**

6:30pm – 8:30pm

(Credit Hours: Child Development)

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June 20, 2009

### **Session 8: Cognitive Development Session 9: Putting It All Together For Alabama's Children**

8:00am – 12:00noon

(Credit Hours: child Development /  
Childcare Professional & the Family)